

**MEDICAID WAIVER FOR MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS  
SERVICES**

2018 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill requires the Department of Health to seek a Medicaid waiver for certain mental health crisis resources.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- defines terms; and
- requires the Department of Health to seek a Medicaid waiver for certain mental health crisis resources.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

ENACTS:

**26-18-415**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **26-18-415** is enacted to read:

**26-18-415. Medicaid waiver for mental health crisis lines and mobile crisis outreach teams.**

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Local mental health crisis line" means the same as that term is defined in Section 63C-18-102.

(b) "Mental health crisis" means:

(i) a mental health condition that manifests itself in an individual by symptoms of

32 sufficient severity that a prudent layperson who possesses an average knowledge of mental  
33 health issues could reasonably expect the absence of immediate attention or intervention to  
34 result in:

35 (A) serious danger to the individual's health or well-being; or

36 (B) a danger to the health or well-being of others; or

37 (ii) a mental health condition that, in the opinion of a mental health therapist or the  
38 therapist's designee, requires direct professional observation or the intervention of a mental  
39 health therapist.

40 (c) (i) "Mental health crisis services" means direct mental health services and on-site  
41 intervention that a mobile crisis outreach team provides to an individual suffering from a  
42 mental health crisis, including the provision of safety and care plans, prolonged mental health  
43 services for up to 90 days, and referrals to other community resources.

44 (ii) "Mental health crisis services" includes:

45 (A) local mental health crisis lines; and

46 (B) the statewide mental health crisis line.

47 (d) "Mental health therapist" means the same as that term is defined in Section  
48 58-60-102.

49 (e) "Mobile crisis outreach team" or "MCOT" means a mobile team of medical and  
50 mental health professionals that, in coordination with local law enforcement and emergency  
51 medical service personnel, provides mental health crisis services.

52 (f) "Statewide mental health crisis line" means the same as that term is defined in  
53 Section 63C-18-102.

54 (2) In consultation with the Department of Human Services and the Mental Health  
55 Crisis Line Commission created in Section 63C-18-202, the department shall develop a  
56 proposal to amend the state Medicaid plan to include mental health crisis services, including  
57 the statewide mental health crisis line, local mental health crisis lines, and mobile crisis  
58 outreach teams.

59 (3) By January 1, 2019, the department shall apply for a Medicaid waiver with the  
60 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services within the United States Department of Health  
61 and Human Services to implement, within the state Medicaid program, the mental health crisis  
62 services described in Subsection (2).

